

**Chickaloon Village Traditional Council
(Nay'dini'aa Na')
2014 Year End
P. L. 102-477 Plan Report
Submitted by
Leah Walker - 477 Program Manager
12/23/2014**

Goals of the 477 Program;

- 1. To integrate the Tribe's employment, training, and related services in order to improve the effectiveness of those services.**
- 2. To reduce joblessness among Alaska Natives/American Indians within the Tribe's service area.**
- 3. To serve tribally determined goals consistent with the policy of self-determination and self-governance. Chickaloon Village Traditional Council's purpose is to perpetuate our ancestors' beliefs, customs, traditions, values, and steward our environment to help our citizens' thrive.**

Short term results

- 1. Fund 6 Applicants for HE/AVT/OJT/Other Classroom Training;**
Through this program, CVTC funded (7) Higher Education and Adult Vocational Training applicants (3 adults and 4 youths).. Many of these students are very close to completion of their degree programs and are maintaining very positive and sound educational and future career goals.
- 2. Maintain 0% drop-out rate for Classroom Training students**
We have had no drop outs from the 477 Scholarship program this fiscal year, in fact our applicants are doing very well with many of them maintaining GPA's above 3.0.
- 3. At least 30 cultural presentations;**
It saddens me to report that our cultural instructor and presenter, Patricia Wade passed away this fall. Patricia was battling throat cancer for several years, and during her treatments Patricia still managed to complete several presentations and participate in activities at the Ya Ne Dah Ah school. Until we are able to replace our cultural instructor (which may take some time as she had a gift and passion for this type of work), we have focused on having other Elders in the community come to talk with the Ya Ne Dah Ah students on differing topics such as cultural traditions, environmental stewardship, and personal life lessons and experiences. The students look forward to the elders coming and prepare questions for Elder interviews, we record these interviews for an Athna language iPad application that the school is creating as an open source application to be published on the I-University site sometime in the spring.
- 4. 6 participants in NYO**

This year we had a total participation of 9 students; 6 junior participants and 3 senior participants. All athletes placed in their events, have shown significant improvements, and are encouraged to try different events as well as strive to do their very best.

Long Term Results

Our long-term education goal is to help specifically improve the performance of our Alaska Native students. It is our hope that teaching our youth about their culture will help them overcome barriers in life. We also teach them about setting goals, honoring responsibilities, leadership and teamwork skills to aid them with achieving their future educational and career goals. We monitor and work to improve identifiers of Alaska Native student performance as:

- Decreased number of GA clients
-
- Decreased unemployment rates for our clients
-
- Increased grade point averages
-
- Reduced drop-out rates
-
- Increased number of credits attempted and earned

1. **Problems or identifiable unmet needs in the program and the tribe's strategy and resources needed to address such problems or needs:** Our greatest problem is still the lack of funds to properly administer all program components thoroughly. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough, our identified service area, is approximately the size of West Virginia and is one of the fastest growing communities in the nation. The growth in our service area is a direct result of Alaska Native peoples moving to our community due to the increase in living costs and lack of job opportunities in rural communities, as well as lack of affordable housing in the Anchorage area. To adequately serve this population influx, we need additional funds to hire additional staffing and to distribute to clients via scholarships. We distributed 477 funds received this past year directly to scholarship recipients.

The Tribe's strategy to address the problem has been to combine resources from different programs to try to meet the increasing administrative service needs. Administration for the program has been accomplished by utilizing existing staff working on other programs. This remains a temporary solution in light of the increasing demand in service needs.

The 2010 census report showed an increase of 50% in population, in 2000 there were 60,000 people in the Matanuska Susitna Borough, and now in 2010 census there is a population of 89,000. The Alaska Native population is estimated to be at least 10% of the general population in the Mat-Su Borough.

2. **Numerical and descriptive information with respect to the various program activities and all related aspects of the tribes' approval plan:** This year we funded seven (7) Tribal citizens in meeting their educational goals. The total number of scholarship funds distributed from our 477 plan was \$13,010.00.
3. **Working in the community with JOM programs:** Our Native Youth Olympics (NYO) team establishes a relationship with area youth so they know who we are as Ahtna peoples, and where we come from. Teaching youth about local culture helps them to feel connected to their own indigenous culture and can help them overcome barriers, thus aiding them in their academic and job-seeking abilities.

The NYO team included 9 students, ages 7 through 16, who actively competed within our service area. They participated in the Peninsula Winter Games, Junior Native Youth Olympics Finals, Senior Native Youth Olympics Finals, as well as the new Seward Invitational. Our NYO program is the only program in the district that doesn't require try-outs and welcomes students of all abilities and children of low income or underprivileged backgrounds. We are continuing to work towards developing a local competition for teams in the Mat-Su Valley, as currently there are none, and transportation costs are inhibitive not only for our team, but for the other teams in the district, with the closest competition for Junior athletes being over 40 miles away in Anchorage. We have developed a strong relationship with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District through our NYO program over the past couple of years as the need for NYO opportunities is greater than what the local district can provide. This need for expansion also presents a need for greater funding.

We provide cultural programs to all interested individuals through three programs: the Ya Ne Dah Ah School, Ahtna Athabascan Language Program, and Cultural/Historical Outreach presentations.

The JOM Program Coordinator is responsible for representing Chickaloon Village Traditional Council in public speaking engagements at various schools within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough area. She coordinates educational materials and traditional storybooks, and presents the Ahtna Athabascan Traditional stories through power point presentations to audience's district wide. The JOM Program Coordinator works directly with Ya Ne Dah Ah students to increase skills and enhance self-confidence through storytelling, offering instruction on public speaking, providing singing lessons, and putting on play performances as requested by the Education Department. Our JOM Program Coordinator, Patricia Wade has given presentations and cultural classes in The Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District plus other community locations, reaching thousands of people in our community and helping CVTC form strong community ties by keeping the community involved with our traditional activities.

We are in the process of re-evaluating the cultural and historical outreach presentation portion of our 477 Program with the passing of our beloved Elder Patricia Wade this fall. Our Education Director has filled in performing some requested community presentations and we are still holding Ahtna language classes for students at the Ya Ne Dah Ah School daily. Additionally, we have brought in other local Elders to volunteer at the school to share culture, history, skills, and present on a variety of topics. Our Elders have helped us to come to terms with the loss of one of our primary culture bearers; however, we recognize this is but temporary solution.

SUMMARY COMMENTS –

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The 477 Program is invaluable to Chickaloon Native Village and the future success of our Tribal citizens. Not only is having scholarship money available to Tribal citizens helping them to stay in school, but the planning process is teaching them how to define and achieve their goals in life.

Unfortunately, we cannot meet the needs of all Alaska Native/American Indian peoples residing in our service area. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough continues to see an increase of Alaska Native peoples moving into the area from rural villages at an extremely rapid rate (an estimated 30.1% population increase since the 2000 census). Our current level of funding prevents us from being able to properly administer and promote our services to effectively serve this increasing population. In order to maintain the scholarship program, we have had to apply for local grants and perform fundraising activities to cover NYO expenses. We have been inundated with requests for expanding our NYO offerings throughout the Matanuska-Susitna Borough by principals, parents and administrators in the Mat-Su Borough School District, along with requests for cultural presentations in the schools; requests that we cannot fulfill at our current level of funding. There is a tremendous amount of unmet need in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough community and we require an increase in financial backing to meet those needs.

Public Law 102-477 Statistical Report

Tribal Nation Chickaloon Village Traditional Council		Report Period	
		From: 10/01/2013	To: 09/30/2014
I. Participants Served	Adults	Youth	Cash Assistance Recipients
A. Total Participants	3	4	
B. Total Terminees	1		
C. Total Current Participants	3	6	
II. Terminee Outcomes	Adult	Youth	Cash Assistance Recipients
A. Total with Employment Objective			
1. Entered Unsubsidized Employment			
2. Other Employment Outcomes			
3. Employment Objective Not Achieved			
4. Earnings Gain	\$	\$	\$
B. Total with Educational/Training Objective			
1. Degree/Certificate Attempted/Attained			
2. Other Education Outcome			
3. Education Objective Not Achieved			
4. Literacy Gain – # of participants attempted/attained			
5. Numeracy Gain – # of participants attempted/attained			
C. Misc. Objective Achieved	1		
D. Other (Non-Positive)			
III. Terminee Characteristics	Adult	Youth	Cash Assistance Recipients
A. Female			
B. Male	1		
C. Education Level:			
1. Dropout			
2. Student			
3. High School Diploma/GED			
4. Post High School	1		
D. Veteran			
IV. Participant Activities	Adult	Youth	Cash Assistance Recipients
A. Employment			
B. Education/Training	3	4	
C. Misc. Objective/Supportive Services			
D. Other/Service Referral			
V. Child Care Development Activities	Adult	Youth	Cash Assistance Recipients
A. Families Receiving Child Care			
B. Children Receiving Child Care			
1. Ages 0 to 3 years			
2. Ages 4 to 5 years			
3. Ages 6 and above			
C. Care Received – Type of Provider			
1. Tribal Center Based			
2. Other Center Based			
3. Group Home			
4. Other Care			
VI. Jobs Creation/Economic Development	Jobs Created	Indians/Alaska Natives Employed	Businesses Assisted
A. Number	2	2	Chickaloon Village Traditional Council
Report Prepared By:	Printed Name & Signature	Phone Number	Date
Leah Walker		907-745-0793	12-23-2014

Expiration Date: 12/31/14